## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS

WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL CENTER 1340 STATE ROUTE 9 LAKE GEORGE, NEW YORK 12845

JAMES MORRISSEY CHAIRMAN BILL TEDESCO GAIL SEAMAN

August 8, 2016

Supervisor Rachel E. Seeber Queensbury racheleseeber@gmail.com

Dear Supervisor Seeber:

Please accept this letter as an advisory opinion from the Board of Ethics in response to your request. It is our understanding that this opinion should address whether your seat on the Warren County Board of Supervisors (hereinafter "Board") is a conflict with your alleged employment by SUNY Adirondack.

It has been alleged that you are an adjunct professor at SUNY Adirondack, and that this is a conflict of interest not only with your seat on the Board, but that it is also a conflict of interest with your position on the Finance, Personnel and Higher Education Committee of the Board of Supervisors.

Section 11 of Warren County Local Law 6 of 2014 ("Warren County Ethics and Disclosure Law") states that "No Warren County Officer or employee, during his or her tenure as a municipal officer or employee, may engage in any private employment, including the rendition of any business, commercial, professional or other type of services, and including serving as a Board member, consultant, contractor or passive investor of an entity that engages in any business or maintains any relationship with Warren County..." §11(a).

Pursuant to a letter received by the County Attorney's Office on March 30, 2016, you are not employed by SUNY Adirondack, nor have you ever been. You are employed by SUNY Plattsburgh. A copy of the letter is attached to this opinion. The County does not engage in any business or maintain any relationship with SUNY Plattsburgh. Therefore, your employment with SUNY Plattsburgh does not violate Section 11 of Warren County Local Law 6 of 2014.

Board of Ethics Members:

Dr. James Morrissey, Chairman

Gail Seaman

Dr. Bill/Tedesco



Office of the President **Dr. Kristine Duffy,** President • 518.743.2237

March 30, 2016

Brian Reichenbach, Esq. Warren County Attorney's Office Warren County Municipal Center 1340 State Route 9 Lake George, NY 12845

Dear Brian,

I have confirmed with our Human Resources department that Rachel Seeber is not an employee of SUNY Adirondack, nor has she been. She is, however, an adjunct instructor for SUNY Plattsburgh, which rents space on our campus. Plattsburgh operates separately from Adirondack and therefore Rachel holds no employment title with us.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kristine Duffy, Ed.D.

President

